

Amendments to the Specification are as follows:

Please insert the following sentence below the title on page 1:

This application claims the benefit of priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-347151, herein incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, lines 23-27 as follows:

A reflection member 317 composed of a plurality of protrusions or dot-shaped plane patterns, which are white or ~~reflexive~~reflective, is formed on a surface (a lower surface) 312c opposite to the emission surface 312b of the light guide plate 312, thereby providing light reflection property.

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, lines 25-27 as follows:

Accordingly, ~~it is an object~~embodiments of the present invention ~~to~~ provide a backlight unit capable of improving the utilization efficiency of light.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 28 and ending on page 4, line 3 as follows:

~~It is another object~~Embodiments of the present invention ~~to~~also provide a thin and low cost backlight unit obtained by improving the utilization efficiency of light, which is capable of uniformly and brightly illuminating an illuminated region.

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 4-7 as follows:

Furthermore, ~~it is another object~~embodiments of the present invention ~~to~~also provide a liquid crystal display device including the backlight unit and that is capable of being driven by low power consumption.

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 8-12 as follows:

Moreover, ~~it is another object~~embodiments of the present invention ~~to~~also provide a thin and low cost liquid crystal display device including the backlight unit, having high brightness, having excellent display quality, and driven by low power consumption.

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 13-14 as follows:

~~In order to achieve the above objects, the present invention employs the following structure.~~

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 27 and ending on page 11, line 1 as follows:

~~FIG. 11 illustrates~~FIGS. 11A and 11B illustrate a concave portion according to a second example of the diffusive reflector included in the backlight unit according to the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph on page 11, lines 5-7 as follows:

~~FIG. 13 illustrates~~FIGS. 13A and 13B illustrate a concave portion according to a third example of the diffusive reflector included in the backlight unit according to the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, lines 14-28 as follows:

According to the present embodiment, ~~it is particularly important to set the distribution of the tilt angles inside the concave portions 30 are set in the range of -18° to +18° and to randomly arrange~~are randomly arranged the pitches between the adjacent concave portions 30 with respect to all of the directions of a plane. Such distribution and arrangement is because, when the pitches between the adjacent concave portions 30 have regularity, colored reflection light is generated by optical interference. When the distribution of the tilt angles inside the concave portions 30 exceeds the range of -18° to +18°, the diffusion angle of the reflection light becomes too large. Therefore, the reflection intensity deteriorates, and images cannot be displayed with high brightness (The diffusion angle of the reflected light is 55° or more in the air.)

Please amend the paragraph on page 18, lines 1-6 as follows:

Furthermore, when the depth of the concave portion 30 is less than 0.1 μm , ~~an~~a large enough light diffusion effect cannot be obtained by forming the concave portion in the reflection surface. When the depth of the concave portion 30 is larger than 3 μm , the pitch must be made large in order to obtain an enough light diffusion effect, which may cause moiré fringes.

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows: